

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's amendments and arguments see Pages 2-3, filed March 25, 2008 with respect to the Objection to the Specification have been fully considered and are persuasive. The amendment has been entered and the objection to the specification of January 10, 2008 has been withdrawn.

Applicant's amendments and arguments see Pages 9, filed March 25, 2008 with respect to the Rejection of Claim 13, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The amendment has been entered and the Rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph of January 10, 2008 has been withdrawn.

Applicant's amendments and arguments see Pages 4-12, filed March 25, 2008 with respect to the Rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10-12, 14-21, and 23-24 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The amendments have been entered and the Rejection of these claims of January 10, 2008 has been withdrawn.

The entered amendments place claims 1-7 and 10-24 in condition for allowance.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kari Footland on April 10, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 13, line 13 "the" has been replaced by --a-- and

In claim 13, line 14, the "a" in the phrase 'a double sided mirror' has been replaced by --the--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 2 recites more than one transmitter rotated by the rotation driving part, and sending light encoded with phase information regarding the rotation; the transmitters spaced apart from each other. This combination was not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

Claim 13 recites that the transmitting part emits light toward the double sides of the mirror in the beacon. Use of a double-sided mirror was not taught or suggested in the cited prior art.

Claims 1, 16 and 19 recite that the location determiner bases the location determination on the combination of the phase information from the transmitting part and displacement of the mobile robot. Calculating the location determination in this way was not taught or suggested in the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LIN B. OLSEN whose telephone number is (571)272-9754. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30 -5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/L. B. O./
Examiner, Art Unit 3661

/Thomas G. Black/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3661